

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A filling system comprising a pressurized source of fill material and a pressure fill head wherein the fill head also comprises a heating element positioned so as to transfer heat to fill material passing through the fill head.
2. The filling system of claim 1 wherein the heating element is adapted to transfer heat to the walls of a flow path within the fill head, the flow path being adapted to permit flow of fill material through the fill head.
3. The filling system of claim 2 wherein the heating element is adapted to transfer heat from a heated fluid flowing through the heating element to any fill material passing through the fill head.
4. The filling system of claim 3 wherein the fill head also comprise one or more thermal probes that provide a visual indication of the temperature of the fill material exiting the fill head.
5. The filling system of claim 4 wherein the fill head also comprise one or more thermal probes that provide a visual indication of the temperature of the fill head.
6. The filling system of claim 1 wherein the heating element is adapted to transfer heat directly to any fill material passing through the fill head.
7. The filling system of claim 1 wherein the heating element comprises a device for converting electricity to heat.
8. The filling system of claim 1 wherein the fill head is coupled to the source of pressurized fill material by a fill material inlet, and the pressure head further comprises an elongated fill material outlet which is substantially larger than the fill material inlet, and the heating element is elongated and aligned with the fill material outlet.